

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 cancelled.

12. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift for a vehicle, said tail-lift comprising:

_____ a lifting mechanism for lifting and lowering a platform, ~~and;~~

_____ left and right side guiding rails ~~in on~~ which the lifting mechanism is suspended with ~~one a~~ plate-shaped vertical carriage depending from each guiding rail, each carriage being each, ~~and can be~~ slidably displaced displacable between a working position located behind the vehicle and a traveling position located below the vehicle; ~~wherein each carriage has a~~

_____ front guiding element ~~elements~~ with an ~~upper sliding member and a rear guiding element with a lower sliding member, wherein the front guiding element is~~ members each front guiding element attached ~~from above onto the~~ into a recess of a corresponding carriage and ~~is arrested on the carriage at a right angles~~ angle to the ~~direction of attachment~~ carriage, said recess opening to a top edge of the corresponding carriage; ~~and, and/or the~~

_____ rear guiding element ~~elements~~, with lower sliding members, each rear guiding element attached ~~from below onto the~~ into an opening of a corresponding carriage ~~in an opening of the carriage and is arrested~~ disposed on the carriage at right angles to the ~~direction of attachment~~ carriage.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein ~~the~~each front guiding element is ~~guided~~tiltably disposed in the recess~~corresponding recesses~~ of ~~the carriage such that it can be~~carriages and vertically displaced and is disposed to be ~~tiltable~~displacable.

15. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 14, wherein each carriage comprises an abutment surface of ~~the carriage, which cooperates~~cooperating with the sliding member of the front guiding element, ~~is~~said abutment surface being convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

16. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 13, wherein ~~the~~each front guiding element is ~~guided~~tiltably disposed in the recess~~corresponding recesses~~ of ~~the carriage such that it can be~~corresponding carriages and vertically ~~displaced and is disposed to be~~tiltable~~displacable~~.

17. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 16, wherein each carriage comprises an abutment surface of ~~the carriage, which cooperates~~corresponding with the sliding member of the front guiding element, ~~is~~said abutment surface being convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

18. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein ~~the~~each rear guiding element is tiltably disposed~~guided in the recess~~corresponding recesses of ~~the~~

~~carriage such that it can be~~corresponding carriages and
 vertically ~~displaced, and is disposed to be~~
~~tiltable~~displacable.

19. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein each carriage comprises an abutment surface of
~~the carriage which cooperates~~corresponding with the sliding member of the rear guiding element ~~is,~~ said abutment surface being convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

20. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the front ~~and/or~~and rear guiding element ~~projects-project~~project beyond both sides of the carriage.

21. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the sliding member of the front ~~and/or~~and rear guiding element ~~has~~elements have a U-shaped cross-section, ~~viewed in the guiding direction of the carriage.~~

22. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 21, ~~wherein the~~further comprising front sliding member ~~carrier and/or the~~carriers and rear sliding member ~~carrier have~~carriers each having a U-shaped cross-section, ~~viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage, and the~~each sliding member carrier and ~~its~~corresponding sliding member, being ~~mutually~~rotated by 90° with respect to one another, and positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces thereof.

23. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 12, ~~wherein the~~further comprising front ~~and/or~~and rear

~~guiding element comprise(s) a sliding member carrier~~
carriers on which ~~the~~ corresponding sliding member
~~is~~ members are held.

24. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 23, wherein the front sliding member carrier ~~and/or~~ and the rear sliding member carrier each have a U-shaped ~~cross-section, viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage, cross-sections~~ and the sliding member ~~carrier carriers~~ and ~~its~~ corresponding sliding member ~~members~~ are, being ~~mutually~~ rotated by 90°, with respect to one another and positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces thereof.

25. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 23, wherein the two sliding member carriers ~~and/or their~~ and corresponding sliding members ~~each have the same~~ are of common design.

26. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 13, wherein ~~the~~ each front guiding element is guided tiltably disposed in the recess ~~corresponding recesses~~ of the corresponding carriage ~~such that it can be~~ and vertically ~~displaced and is disposed to be~~ tiltable, wherein the ~~displacable, each~~ rear guiding element is guided tiltably disposed in the recess ~~corresponding recesses~~ of the ~~carriage such that it can be~~ corresponding carriages and vertically ~~displaced, and is disposed to be~~ tiltable ~~displacable, wherein an abutment surface of the~~ a corresponding carriage which cooperates cooperating with the a corresponding sliding member of the rear guiding element is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage, wherein

the front ~~and/or~~and rear guiding element ~~project~~elements ~~project~~ beyond both sides of the carriage, wherein the sliding member of the front ~~and/or~~and rear guiding element ~~has~~elements have a U-shaped cross-section, ~~viewed in the guiding direction of the carriage,~~ and wherein the front ~~and/or~~and rear guiding element ~~comprise(s)~~elements each correspond to a sliding member carrier on which ~~the~~a corresponding sliding member is held.

27. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein each carriage comprises an abutment surface ~~of the carriage, which cooperates~~cooperating with the sliding member of the front guiding element, ~~is~~said abutment surface being convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

28. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein the front sliding member carrier ~~and/or~~and the rear sliding member carrier each have a U-shaped ~~cross-section, viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage,~~cross sections and the sliding member ~~carrier~~carriers and ~~its~~corresponding sliding member, members are ~~being mutually rotated by 90°, and with respect to one another, and positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces~~thereof.

29. (Currently Amended) Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein the ~~two~~ sliding member carriers ~~and/or their~~ corresponding sliding members ~~each have the same~~are of common design.